MARVEL COMICS
MARVEL COMICS PRESENTS
WOLVERINE
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BLACK SHADOW! WHITE SHADOW—— THE EXPLOSIVE FINALE!
PLUS 3 MORE ALL-NEW FEATURES!

MARVEL® COMICS PRESENTS™

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Stan Lee Presents:

WOLVERINE "BLACK SHADOW WHITE SHADOW" 1

WRITER — Marv Wolfman
ART — John Buscema
LETTERER — Phil Felix
COLORIST — Nel Yomtov

"SHADOWS IN THE LIGHT" — PART 10 OF 10

Black Shadow and White Shadow, the split personalities of a psychotic mutant, attacked Wolverine in the destroyed hospital that spawned the twin destructors. Now Black Shadow is after Wolverine's friend, Mai. Not even Logan can withstand their death-touch powers.

DEVIL SLAYER "LOST SOULS" 9

WRITER — Dwight Zimmerman
PENCILER — Rodney Ramos
INKER — Mark McKenna
LETTERER — Janice Chiang
COLORIST — John Wilcox

"WORDS OF PEACE . . . DEEDS OF WAR" — PART 2 OF 4

In a desperate effort to regain purpose in life and redeem his soul, Eric Simon Payne — Devil Slayer — has become the defender of a remote, but strategic, village in Central America caught in the crossfire between the revolutionary government forces and the defiant freedom fighters. But his efforts to drive away both forces are about to make things worse.

CAPTAIN AMERICA 17

WRITER — Len Wein
CO-PLOTTER — Deni Loubert
PENCILER — Steve Bucellato
INKER — Gerry Talaoc
LETTERER — Janice Chiang
COLORIST — Steve Bucellato

"OLD GLORIES"

Steve Rogers is a man of another era — still youthful after five decades, his body preserved for most of that time in ice.

Now, lost in the modern world, he is still the living legend of World War II, the Star Spangled Avenger called Captain America. But chain mail and an inpenetrable shield alone does not necessarily a hero make. One must also have a fighting heart.

ARABIAN KNIGHT 25

WRITER — Scott Lobdell
ART — Don Perlin
LETTERER — Todd Klein
COLORIST — Paty Cockrum

"A FATHER'S LOVE"

Abdul Qamar sought refuge from a storm by entering an underground tomb. There he discovered a magic carpet, an enchanted scimitar, and a mystic sash. Taking these to be a Gift of the Gods, he took it upon himself to become The Arabian Knight! He hasn't done much in his role as defender of the desert dwellers, but all of that changes . . . Today.

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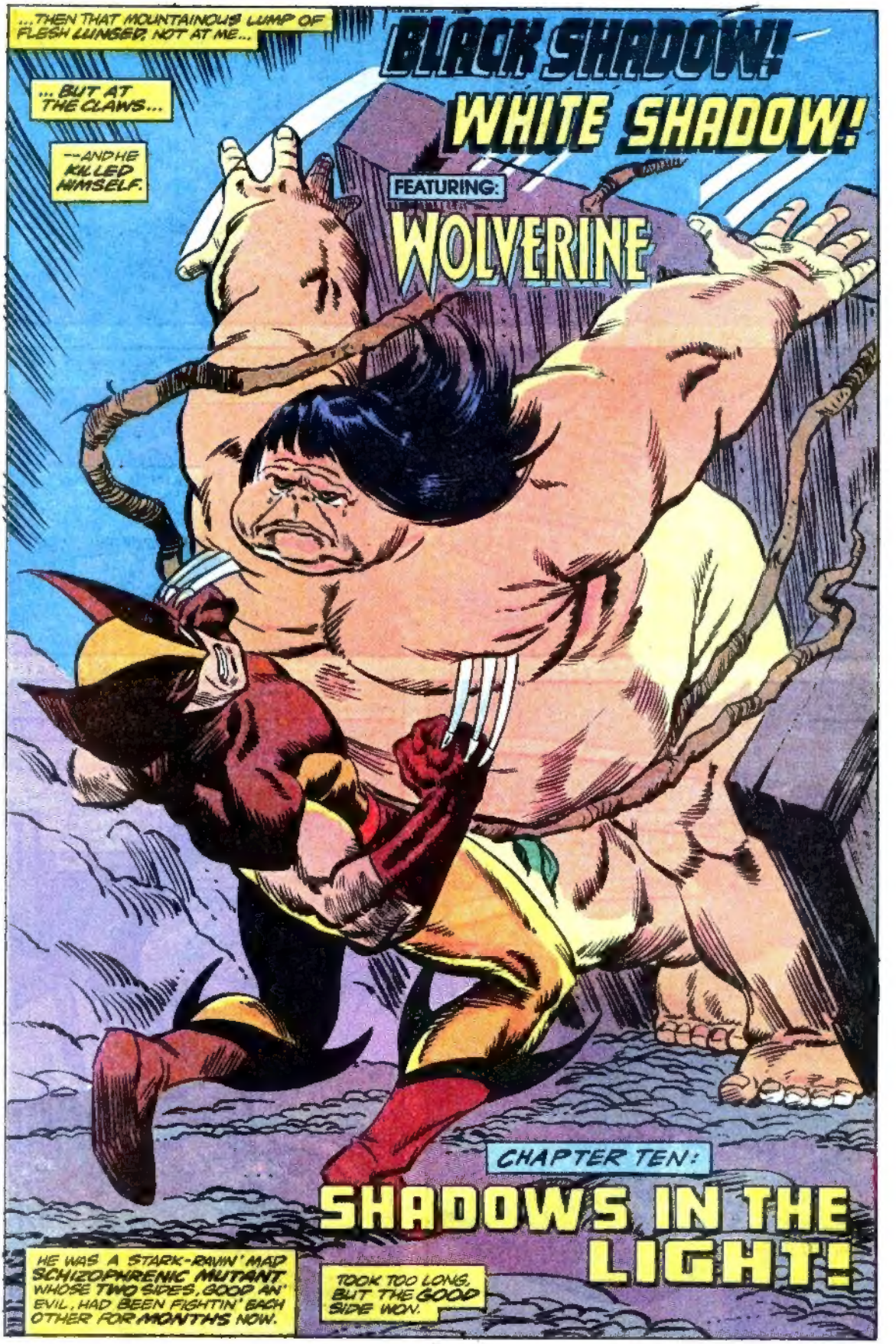
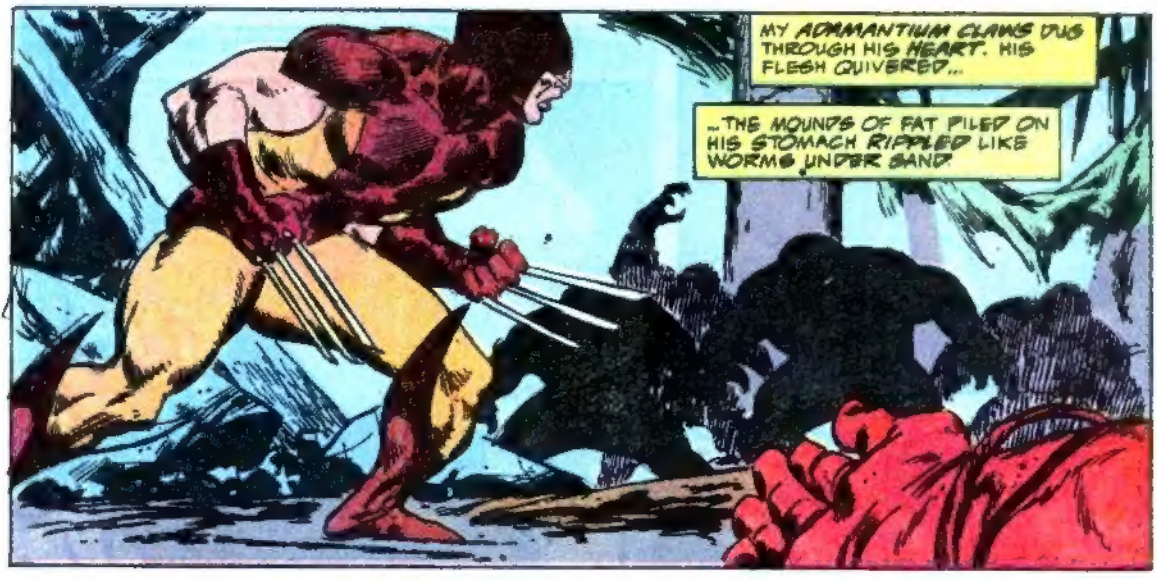
MA! KNEW SHE WAS DEAD, BUT BLESS HER, SHE NEVER ONCE SCREAMED.
NOT AS HE CLUMSILY SHAMBLED TOWARD HER...

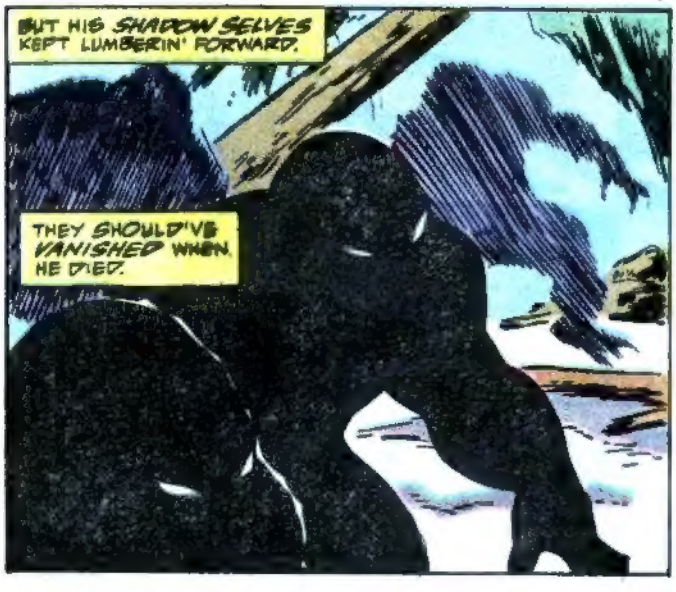
... NOT AS HIS THICK, FLESHY EYES RED WITH MURDERLUST TOOK HER IN WITH A SINGLE GAZE...
... NOT AS HIS MEATY ARMS LIFTED TOWARD HER QUIVERING THROAT.

I WAS READY.
THIS TIME HE WOULDN'T STOP ME. NOTHIN' COULD STOP ME.
AN' MAYBE HE KNEW IT.

'CAUSE SUDDENLY HE STOOD DEAD IN HIS TRACKS. HIS RED-RIMED EYES SOFTENED.
HE SAW MY ADAMANTIUM CLAWS AND STARED AT 'EM LIKE SOME RAVENOUS VULTURE...


...THEN THAT MOUNTAINOUS LUMP OF FLESH LUNGED, NOT AT ME...
... BUT AT THE CLAWS...
--AND HE KILLED HIMSELF.
BLACK SHADOW!
WHITE SHADOW!
FEATURING:
WOLVERINE
CHAPTER TEN:
SHADOWS IN THE LIGHT!
HE WAS A STARK-RAVIN' MAD SCHIZOPHRENIC MUTANT WHOSE TWO SIDES, GOOD AN' EVIL, HAD BEEN FIGHTIN' EACH OTHER FOR MONTHS NOW.
TOOK TOO LONG, BUT THE GOOD SIDE WON.


MY ADAMANTIUM CLAWS DUG THROUGH HIS HEART. HIS FLESH QUIVERED...
...THE MOUNDS OF FAT PILED ON HIS STOMACH RIPPLED LIKE WORMS UNDER SAND.


BUT HIS SHADOW SELVES KEPT LUMBERIN' FORWARD.
THEY SHOULD'VE VANISHED WHEN HE DIED.

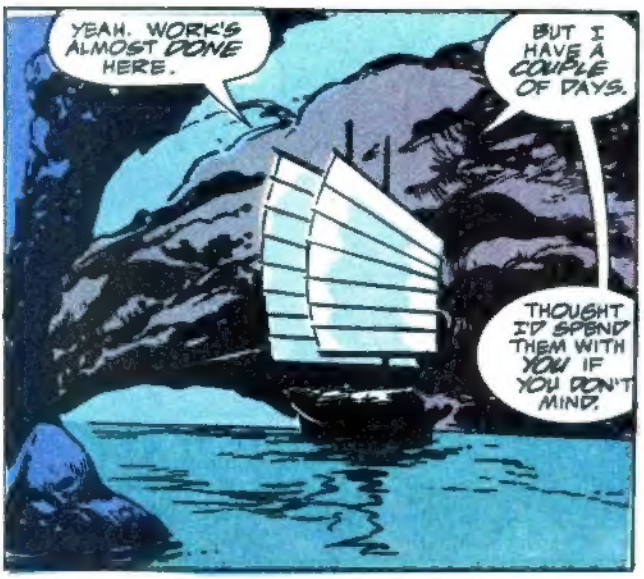
BEHIND ME I HEARD A RUSH OF AIR ESCAPE FROM WHITE, PARCHED LIPS.

IT TOOK A FULL MINUTE FOR HIS HEART TO STOP BEATIN', FOR THE BLOOD TO STOP PUMPING THROUGH CLOGGED ARTERIES TO HIS BRAIN.
POOM
POOM
POOM
IT TOOK A FULL MINUTE FOR THE MAN MOUNTAIN TO DIE!

HE WASN'T DYIN' EASY.
HIS BRAIN WAS DEAD, BUT WHAT LITTLE BLOOD STILL REMAINED KEPT IT PUMPIN' A FEW MOMENTS MORE.
THE FIRST SPASM OF DEATH SHOT THROUGH HIM LIKE LIGHTNIN'.
ONLY SERVED TO MAKE HIM ANGRY
LONG ENOUGH TO VAPORIZE MAI IF HE COULD.
COULDN'T JUST STAND AROUND LIKE I WAS WATCHIN' T.V.
MAI-- DON'T GIVE IN.
BRAVE WORDS...SHE ACCEPTED DEATH EVEN BEFORE SHE TRUDGED UP TO THIS CHINA MOUNTAIN CHARNEL HOUSE.
BLACK SHADOW WAS REELIN'. GAVE ME A MOMENT TO PASS 'IM...
SHOOM!
JUST HANG ON, MAI.
IT'S OVER NOW.

KNEW WHAT WAS GONNA HAPPEN WHEN THE FINAL SHADOW BLEW.
PHOOM
KNEW IT WASN'T GONNA BE PRETTY!
DON'T LOOK.
"PATCH"--WHAT IS HAPPENING?
TRUST ME, LADY--
--YOU DON'T WANT TO KNOW!
BAWWHOOOWWW

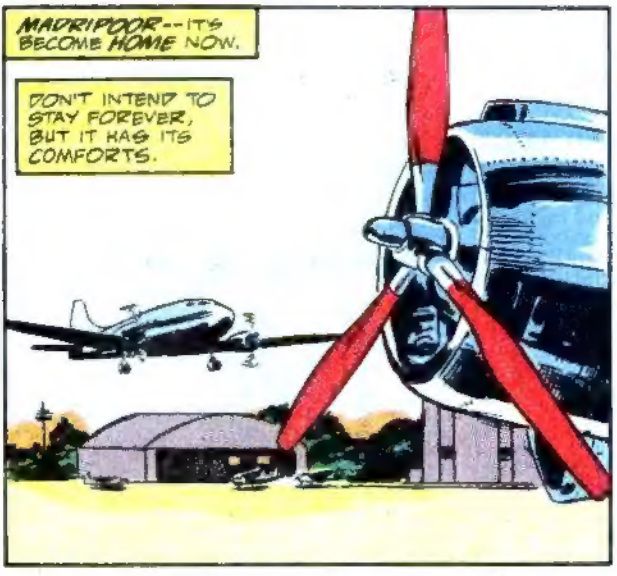
TRIP BACK TO HONG KONG SEEMED TO TAKE NO TIME AT ALL. WE COULD HEAR THE CITY NOISE MILES BEFORE WE GOT THERE.
FELT GOOD. FELT SAFE.
YOU'RE LEAVING SOON, "PATCH".


YEAH. WORK'S ALMOST DONE HERE.
BUT I HAVE A COUPLE OF DAYS.
THOUGHT I'D SPEND THEM WITH YOU IF YOU DON'T MIND.

MIND? I--I'D LIKE THAT.
I DON'T THINK I COULD MAKE IT BY MYSELF RIGHT NOW.
YOU MADE IT THIS FAR WITHOUT CRUMBLING, YOU'LL MAKE IT ALL THE WAY.

YOU'RE STRONGER THAN YOU THINK YOU ARE.
SOMETIMES I WOULD LIKE TO BE WEAK.
YEAH. SOMETIMES I'D LIKE THAT PRIVILEGE, TOO.
SO LEAN ON ME FOR THE NEXT DAY OR TWO. MAYBE WE CAN HELP EACH OTHER.

STILL HAD THE REASON I CAME TO HONG KONG IN THE FIRST PLACE.
LINN CHOW-- HER HUSBAND TOOK HER KIDS FROM HER.
HAD TO HONOR MY PROMISE TO HER.
NOK
NOK
PETER CHOW?
YEAH? WHAT DO YOU WANT?
YOUR WIFE, LINN -- SHE WANTED ME TO BRING HER CHILDREN BACK TO MADRIPOOR.
YOU'RE TOO LATE, SHORTY. SHE'S DEAD. OR DIDN'T YOU HEAR?
SOME CREATURE KILLED HER. TOO BAD, EH?
I HEARD. MAKES NO DIFFERENCE. KIDS ARE COMIN' WITH ME.
YOU CRAZY? I'LL--
I WOULDN'T TRY IT IF I WERE YOU, CHOW.
THE KIDS ARE BETTER OFF WITH THEIR GRANDPARENTS.
YOU AGREE. DON'T YOU?
UHHH--Y-YEAH.
YEAH. DON'T WANT 'EM ANYWAY.
TAKE 'EM ... YEAH, TAKE 'EM.
PAINS IN THE BUTT.


MADRIPOOR--IT'S BECOME HOME NOW.
DON'T INTEND TO STAY FOREVER, BUT IT HAS ITS COMFORTS.

AND RIGHT NOW, ITS PLEASURES.
THERE THEY ARE.
GRAN'MA...
GRAN'PA...

THANK YOU, MR. PATCH...
THANK YOU FOR TAKING US HOME.
HOME...

...HAVEN'T HAD A REAL HOME IN TOO LONG.
NOBODY WAITING FOR ME. NOBODY TO THINK ABOUT.

NOBODY TO LIE BESIDE A FIRE WITH.
SOMEWHERE OUT THERE'S THE REST OF THE X-MEN. THEY'RE AS CLOSE TO FAMILY AS I GOT.
AN' THERE'S MARIKO, TOO.

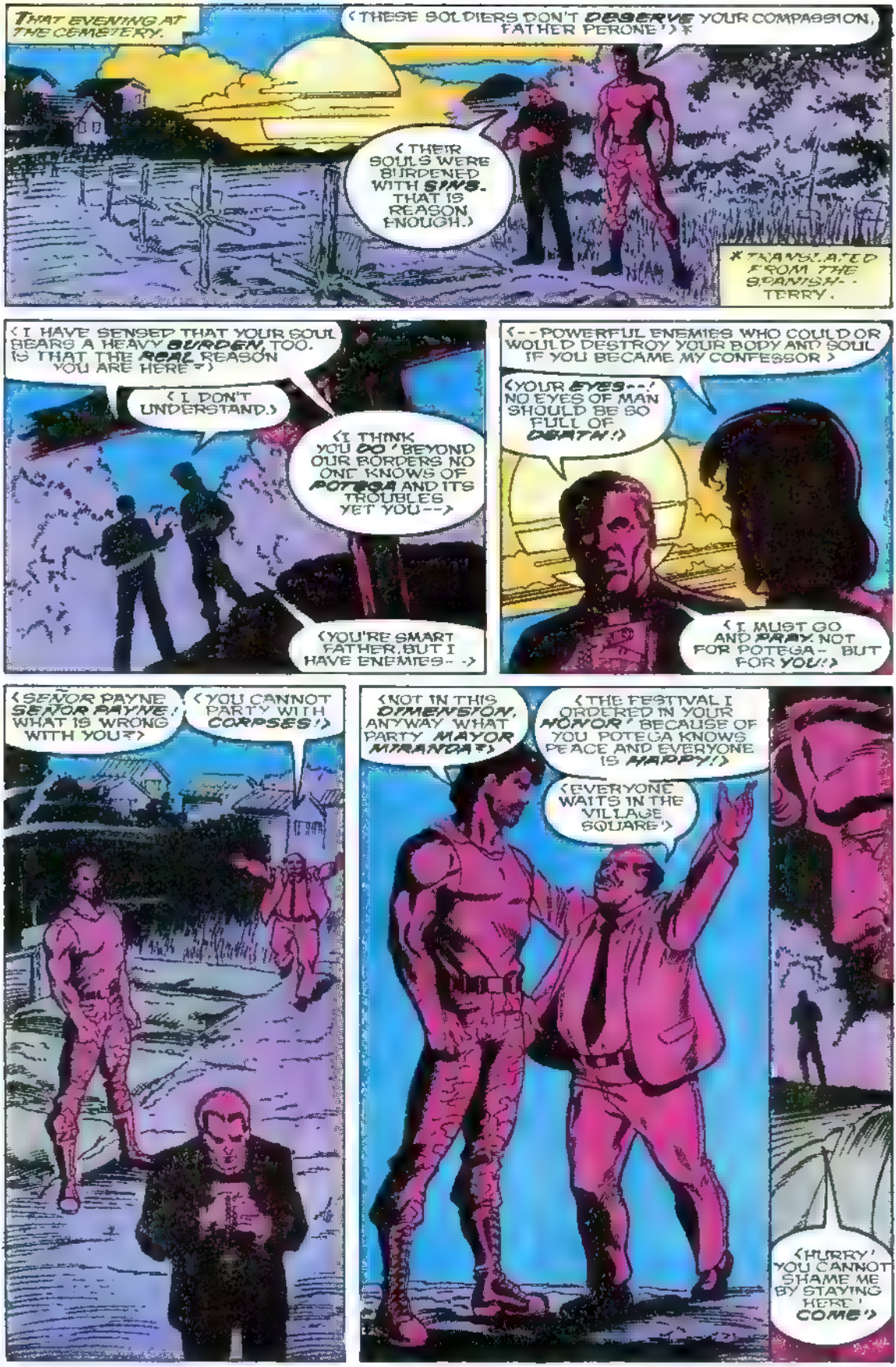
THEY'RE THE ONES I CHOOSE TO BE WITH.
EVEN WITHOUT BLOOD YOU'VE GOT FAMILY...
...LONG AS YOU GOT FRIENDS.
THE END.

"NOW DO YOU BELIEVE ME, COLONEL MCCLOSKEY?
"THIS IS WHY THE VILLAGE OF POTOSA HAS NOT FALLEN TO US! IT POSSESSES A PROTECTOR... WHO IS AN INVINCIBLE ONE-MAN ARMY!"
DEVIL-SLAYER
RAT-A-T
TATTA-TAT
KABOOM
"KEEP IT DOWN, GARCIA! MAYBE YOU AND YOUR FREEDOM FIGHTERS SAW HIM AS A ONE-MAN ARMY...
"...BUT ALL I SEE IS A GADGET FREAK WITH A RAMBO COMPLEX...
CLOOT
"...WHO'S ABOUT TO COMMIT SUICIDE AGAINST THE REVOLUTIONARY GOVERNMENT'S BEST SOVIET BUILT ATTACK CHOPPERS!
PUFF PUFF
PUFF PUFF
PUFF PUFF
LOST SOULS
PART 2
"THEY'LL MAKE MINCEMENT OUTTA HIM."
"THE CIA IS NEVER WRONG. BUT COLONEL MCCLOSKEY, EVEN YOUR EYES CANNOT DENY WHAT THEY SEE.
"--THAT HE HAS ALREADY ELIMINATED TWO HELICOPTERS!"
ADRIFT
WORDS of PEACE... DEEDS of WAR

CHOOT
K-BOOM
"HE NAILED THE FIRST WITH SNAKE GARCIA THE SECOND WAS THE KISS OF LADY LUCK."
"OF COURSE, COLONEL. AND PERHAPS YOU HAVE AN EQUALLY GLIB EXPLANATION FOR THIS... HIS THIRD."
"COLONEL--?"
CHOOT!
IF I DID, I WOULDN'T BE STUCK HERE AS A GOVERNMENT-ISSUE SUGAR DADDY!
WONDERING WHERE THAT GUY GOT HIS WONDER GUN!
"HEY! WHERE'D HE GO?"
INCREDIBLE! HE JUST VANISHED! HIS HELMET--SOMETHING IN IT DISTORTS LIGHT.
COLONEL--LOOK! THERE HE IS--BEHIND THE HELICOPTERS!
RcHOOT
"NOW WHAT'S HE SHOOTING--WRIST ROCKETS?"
"COLONEL McCLOSKEY, TO WIN OUR WAR, WE MUST POSSESS POTEGA!
K-BOOM
BOOM
KABOOOM
"BUT HOW CAN WE SUCCEED AGAINST A MAN WHO CAN DO THIS?"

"SIMPLE, GARCIA--YOU BUY HIM OFF!"
"COLONEL MCCLOSKEY, PODEGA IS A POOR VILLAGE! DO YOU THINK HIS SERVICES ARE FOR SALE FOR MONEY?"
"MAN, HE'S PROBABLY AN IDEALIST FIGHTING FOR SOME CRACKPOT CAUSE!"
BUT HE CAN BE BOUGHT, GARCIA--EVERY MAN CAN BE BOUGHT! THE KEY IS FINDING THE RIGHT PRICE!
ME, TO HANDLE WEAPONS LIKE HIS... I'D SELL MY SOUL!
YOU SHOULD BE CAREFUL WHAT YOU SAY, CAPTAIN COLONEL MCCLOSKEY.
WHA--?
HE APPEARED WITHOUT WARNING! LIKE A GHOST--OR A DEVIL! HOW?
WISHES LIKE THAT HAVE A NASTY WAY OF COMING TRUE!
PAYNE--? ERIC PAYNE!
90 THE MEMORY STILL BURNS... COLONEL.

YES, SERGEANT ' BLEEDING HEART ' BECAUSE YOU TRIED TO GET ME COURT-MARTIALED'
THE VILLAGE IN 'NAM IS HISTORY, SON-
--LET'S TALK ABOUT TODAY. I'M... GLAD YOU'RE HERE -- FIGHTING FOR PEACE JUST LIKE ME'
PAYNE, I'LL COME TO THE POINT ! YOUR UNIQUE HARDWARE COULD WIN THIS WAR FOR THE GOOD GUYS !
TELL US YOUR SUPPLIER -- OR SELL US YOUR GEAR -- I'LL TREAT YOU RIGHT '
COLONEL, I REMEMBER NOW YOU MADE THAT VILLAGE IN 'NAM HISTORY' LEAVE--
--OR I'LL BLOW YOUR HEAD OFF '
PAYNE, ARE YOU CRAZY ? YOU'RE ONE MAN - FACING TWO ARMIES '
POTEGA STRADDLES A STRATEGIC MOUNTAIN PASS-- SO NEITHER SIDE WILL LEAVE YOU ALONE !
TOGETHER WE CAN BRING PERMANENT PEACE TO THIS COUNTRY ! GO IT ALONE, AND YOU'LL ONLY GET YOURSELF AND A LOT OF INNOCENT PEOPLE KILLED !
EVEN YOUR SUPPLIER WOULD SEE I TALK SENSE.
NICE TRY, COLONEL -
-- BUT YOUR DEFINITION OF "INNOCENT PEOPLE" IS TOO FLEXIBLE !
AND, I'M MY OWN BOSS ' NOW GET OUT -- AND DON'T COME BACK '
I'LL GO..
...BUT I WILL BE BACK '


THAT EVENING AT THE CEMETERY.
(THESE SOLDIERS DON'T DESERVE YOUR COMPASSION, FATHER PERONE') *
(THEIR SOULS WERE BURDENED WITH SINS. THAT IS REASON ENOUGH.)
*TRANSLATED FROM THE SPANISH-- TERRY.
(I HAVE SENSED THAT YOUR SOUL BEARS A HEAVY BURDEN, TOO. IS THAT THE REAL REASON YOU ARE HERE?)
(I DON'T UNDERSTAND.)
(I THINK YOU GO BEYOND OUR BORDERS NO ONE KNOWS OF POTEGA AND ITS TROUBLES YET YOU-->
(YOU'RE SMART FATHER, BUT I HAVE ENEMIES-- ->
(--POWERFUL ENEMIES WHO COULD OR WOULD DESTROY YOUR BODY AND SOUL IF YOU BECAME MY CONFESSOR)
(YOUR EYES--! NO EYES OF MAN SHOULD BE SO FULL OF DEATH!)
(I MUST GO AND PRAY NOT FOR POTEGA-- BUT FOR YOU!)
(SENOR PAYNE SENOR PAYNE! WHAT IS WRONG WITH YOU?)
(YOU CANNOT PARTY WITH CORPSES!)
(NOT IN THIS DIMENSION, ANYWAY WHAT PARTY MAYOR MIRANDA?)
(THE FESTIVAL I ORDERED IN YOUR HONOR' BECAUSE OF YOU POTEGA KNOWS PEACE AND EVERYONE IS HAPPY!)
(EVERYONE WAITS IN THE VILLAGE SQUARE')
(HURRY' YOU CANNOT SHAME ME BY STAYING HERE' COME')

ERIC DOES, AND DISCOVERS THAT BENEATH THE VENEER OF MERRYMAKING, IS A DESPERATE DESIRE...
...NOT TO HAVE FUN, BUT TO FORGET FEAR! IT IS A DESIRE ERIC READILY APPRECIATES.
(W-WATER, SENOR PAYNE?)
(SI, GRACIAS.)
(SENOR PAYNE--ONE PERSEVERES WITH WATER.)
(SI, FOR THIRST, THERE IS NOTHING BETTER THAN TAFIA.)
(I'LL PASS.)
(AH, YOU ARE A SLY ONE! I HAVE SEEN HOW YOU LOOK WITH FAVOR ON YOUNG MARIA. YOU MUST HER--SHE IS YOUNG! DO NOT WORRY. I WILL MAKE SURE HER FAMILY SAYS NOTHING.)
(YOU, PIG!)
WHACK
UNH!
KRAS!
MAYOR JUDAN MIRANDA IS A CREATURE UNWORTHY OF ANY MAN'S CONTEMPT!
PERHAPS THAT IS WHAT ENRAGES ERIC BEYOND REASON
THE MAYOR SHALL END ERIC'S DREAM OF SAVING POTEQA!
BUT NOW THE MAYOR WILL DIE, LEAVING ONLY THE WORTHY VILLAGERS, AND THE DREAM WILL BE POSSIBLE AGAIN!

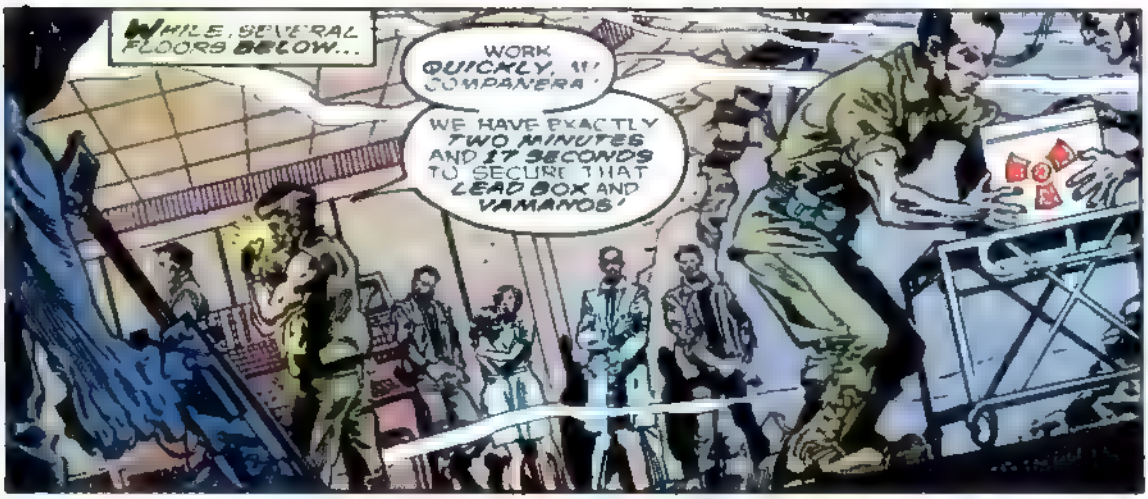
BUT INSTEAD OF GRATITUDE, ERIC SEES THE VILLAGERS REACT WITH SUDDEN HORROR!
AND JUST AS SUDDENLY, HE KNOWS WHY!
HE HAS LOST CONTROL! THEY NO LONGER SEE THEIR GUARDIAN ANGEL--
--THEY SEE THE MAN CALLED DEVIL SLAYER ABOUT TO COMMIT MURDER!
IN LESS THAN A SECOND, THE PSYCHIC DISGUISE IS RESTORED.
THE VILLAGERS WILL FORGET THEIR TOO-BRIEF GLIMPSE OF THE IDENTITY ERIC SEEKS TO FLEE. BUT ERIC WILL NEVER FORGET THIS MOMENT OF SHAME.
HE THOUGHT THE MAYOR DID NOT DESERVE TO BE SAVED.
HE WAS WRONG!
THE MAN UNWORTHY IS ERIC SIMON PAYNE!

MEANWHILE IN THE REBEL BASE CAMP JUST BEYOND THE BORDER
WE WERE WINNING HERE! POTEGA'S CAPTURE WOULD HAVE CLINCHED MORE CONGRESSIONAL FUNDING! BUT NOW.. NOW KA-BOOM!
SECURITY'S KEPT THINGS QUIET, BUT THERE'LL BE A LEAK-- THERE ALWAYS IS!
WHEN THAT HAPPENS, I CAN KISS THIS OPERATION--AND MY CAREER--GOODBYE!
IF ONLY I HAD A WAY TO NEUTRALIZE THE EDGE PAYNE'S WEAPONS GIVE HIM. THEN I'D BE THE ONE CALLING THE SHOTS--
--AND THE FIRST ONE WOULD BE RIGHT BETWEEN THAT DO-GOODER'S EYES!
FOG'S COMING IN EARLY--AN THICK! CAN'T EVEN SEE THE TREES!
IT ALLOWS US A MOMENT OF PRIVACY--TO DISCUSS IN PEACE OUR MUTUAL PROBLEM OF ERIC SIMON PAYNE, WHOM OTHERS KNOW AS DEVIL SLAYER!
DEVIL SLAYER? WHO ARE YOU? AND WHAT KIND OF LINE--?
I AM COLONEL RAMIREZ OF THE PEOPLE'S LIBERATION ARMY. LIKE YOU, I WOULD SUFFER IF EVENTS HERE WERE WIDELY KNOWN. I PROPOSE AN ALLIANCE!
A DEAL?
THAT'S A PRETTY TALL ORDER, MISTER
FORGET THE QUESTIONS OF TRUST AND SECRECY--WHAT ABOUT FIREPOWER? EVEN TOGETHER, YOU AND I CAN'T MATCH WHAT PAYNE HAS.
I WASN'T KIDDING WHEN I SAID I'D SELL MY SOUL FOR HARDWARE LIKE HIS. BUT WHERE ON EARTH WOULD WE FIND IT?
I HAVE A DEALER--ASKING ONLY THE PRICE YOU STATED.
HIS NAME IS THE FLYING DUTCHMEN!
GREETINGS, COLONEL. SIGN WITH ME, AND YOUR VICTORY IS GUARANTEED!
CONTINUED NEXT ISSUE
THE ATTACK!

THE TIME: EARLIER THIS VERY MORNING. 0930 HOURS...
THE PLACE: THE GYMNASIUM/PHYSICAL THERAPY CENTER OF THE VETERANS' ADMINISTRATION HOSPITAL IN DOWNTOWN ARLINGTON, VIRGINIA...
THE PLAYERS: AN APPRECIATIVE AUDIENCE OF THOSE SELFSAME VETS, THE HOSPITAL STAFF--
--AND THE COLORFULLY-CLAD PHENOMENON THEY'VE ASSEMBLED HERE TO WATCH, HIMSELF A VETERAN OF MORE WARS THAN CAN EASILY BE COUNTED.
FOR HE IS THE LIVING LEGEND CALLED...
CAPTAIN AMERICA
WAY TO GO, CAP!
SHOW 'EM HOW IT'S DONE!
OLD GLORIES!

THEN, AS THE STAR-SPANGLED AVENGER DISMOUNTS WITH AN ALMOST-INHUMAN AGILITY...
YOU STILL GOT IT, CAP!
SHOW US MORE!
YEAH, IT AIN'T TOO OFTEN WE GET US A HERO LIKE YOU IN HERE!
IT'S MEN LIKE YOU WHO ARE THE TRUE HEROES--
--MEN WHO'VE RISKED YOUR LIVES IN DEFENSE OF YOUR COUNTRY WITHOUT ANY SO-CALLED SUPER-POWERS!
HEY, WE ONLY DID WHAT HADDA BE DONE!
I'M GRAVE, CAP! I RAN INTA YA IN FRANCE BACK DURIN' WORLD WAR TWO--
--AN' I'D SWEAR YOU AIN'T AGED A DAY!
NEITHER HAVE YOU, YOUNGSTER.
NAME'S CLARENCE, CAP--AND I'VE SEEN YOU BEFORE, TOO--!
I FOUGHT MY WAY UP PORK CHOP HILL BESIDE YOU BACK IN KOREA!
WISH I COULD SAY I REMEMBER YOU, FRIEND--
--BUT A DIFFERENT MAN WAS WEARING THIS UNIFORM IN THOSE DAYS!
NAME'S RED CAN'T SAY I'VE EVER SEEN YOU CAP--AND I DOUBT I EVER WILL!
WHITE PHOSPHOROUS BLAST BLINDED ME BACK IN THE '44AM--
--AND THESE DAYS I'M PRETTY MUCH HELPLESS!

YOU'RE ONLY AS HELPLESS AS YOU ALLOW YOURSELF TO BE, RED!
THERE ARE COUNTLESS EXAMPLES OF PEOPLE WHO'VE RISEN ABOVE THEIR HANDICAPS, FROM HELEN KELLER TO F.D.R.
AND WITH A LITTLE HELP AND HARD WORK, I'M CONFIDENT YOU CAN DO IT--
FWASH!FWASH!
--TOO--
WH-WHAT'S HAPPENED T' THE LIGHT--?!
THE WHOLE BUILDIN' SHOOK! I FELT LIKE AN EARTHQUAKE...
PLEASE, SOMEBODY--HELP US!
TH-THERE'S BEEN AN EXPLOSION--
BABY, MISS--YOU'RE SAFE NOW!
JUST TELL ME EXACTLY WHAT HAPPENED!
IT'S THE RADIOLOGY LAB DOWN IN THE BASEMENT. THERE WAS THIS TERRIBLE BLAST--THEN THESE COMMANDOS... THEN THEN.
I-I DON'T KNOW WHAT'S GOING ON!
STAY HERE AND STAY CALM, EVERYONE!
I'M GOING TO CHECK IT OUT!
MAN LOOK AT HIM MOVE! HE'S AS FAST AS HE WAS 45 YEARS AGO!
YEAH, YOU AN' ME BOTH, BROTHER!
YOU AN' ME BOTH!
I'D GIVE ANYTHING TO HAVE THAT KIND OF VITALITY AGAIN!


WHILE, SEVERAL FLOORS BELOW...
WORK QUICKLY, M' COMPAÑERA!
WE HAVE EXACTLY TWO MINUTES AND 17 SECONDS TO SECURE THAT LEAD BOX AND VAMANOS!

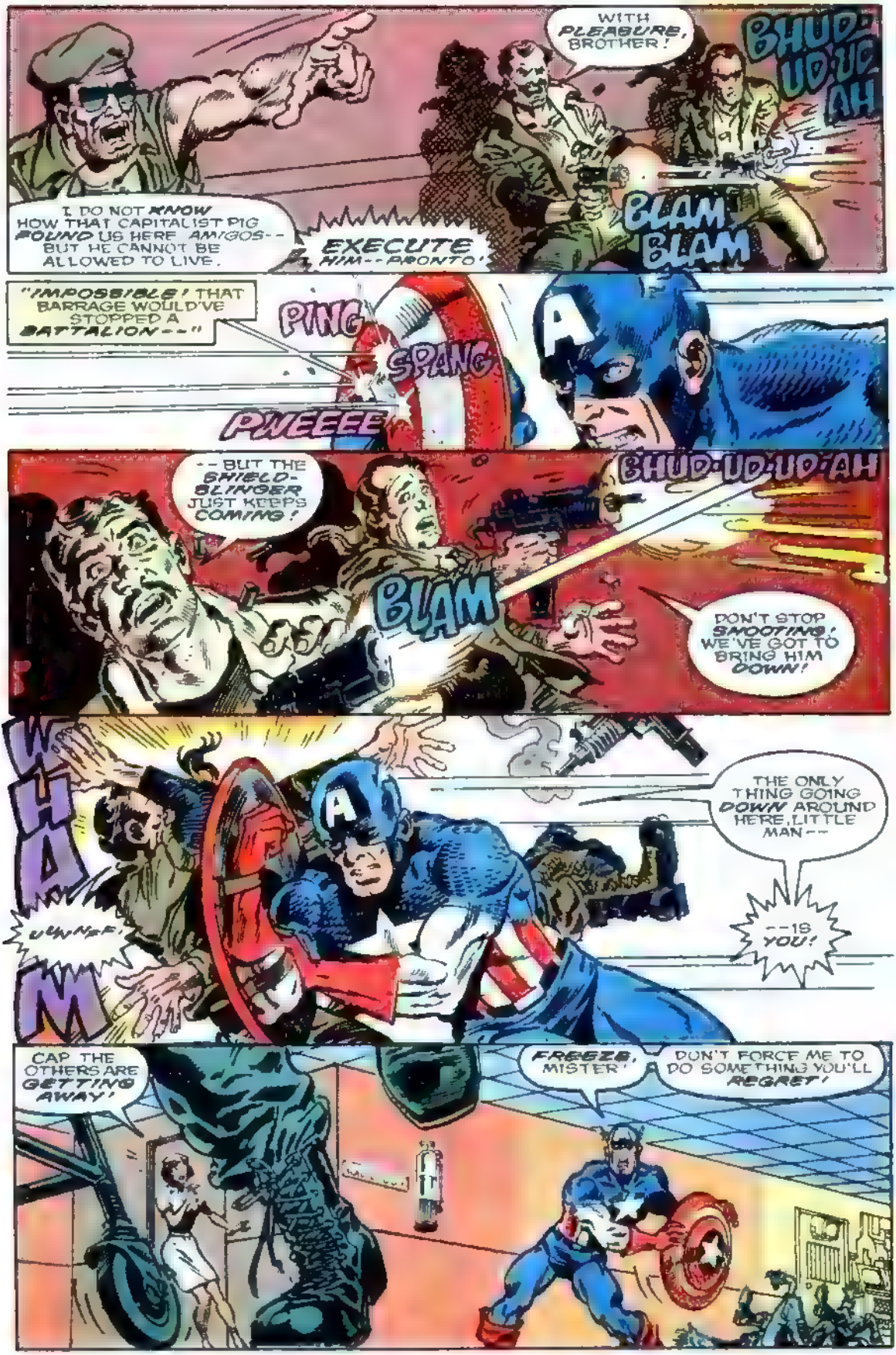
PLEASE! DON'T--THOSE ARE RADIOACTIVE ISOTOPES YOU'RE TAKING!
YOU DON'T KNOW WHAT YOU'RE DOING--!

I BEG TO DIFFER, SEÑOR DOCTOR!
WE KNOW PRECISELY WHAT WE ARE DOING. EH?

MIAMIGOS AND I, WE REPRESENT THE FIFTH WORLD FRONT--
--AND WE ARE LIBERATING THIS MATERIAL AS PART OF OUR CONTINUING STRUGGLE AGAINST GLOBAL OPPRESSION!

WITH THESE ISOTOPES WE CAN CONSTRUCT A NUCLEAR WEAPON THAT WILL AT LAST FORCE THIS MISERABLE WORLD TO LISTEN TO US!
FINALLY THEY WILL UNDERSTAND THAT WE MEAN BUSINESS, SI?

YOU MEAN THEY'LL FINALLY UNDERSTAND JUST HOW CRAZY YOU ARE! DON'T YOU?
QUE--?!?
CAPITAN AMERICA!?

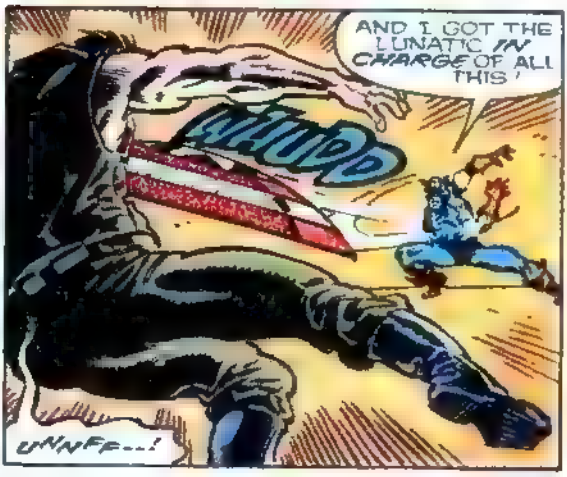

I DO NOT KNOW HOW THAT CAPITALIST PIG FOUND US HERE AMIGOS-- BUT HE CANNOT BE ALLOWED TO LIVE.
EXECUTE HIM--PRONTO!
WITH PLEASURE, BROTHER!
BHUD-UD-UD-AH
BLAM BLAM
"IMPOSSIBLE! THAT BARRAGE WOULD'VE STOPPED A BATTALION--"
PING
SPANG
PWEEEE
--BUT THE SHIELD-SLINGER JUST KEEPS COMING!
BLAM
BHUD-UD-UD-AH
DON'T STOP SHOOTING! WE'VE GOT TO BRING HIM DOWN!
WHA
UNNF!
M
THE ONLY THING GOING DOWN AROUND HERE, LITTLE MAN--
--IS YOU!
CAP THE OTHERS ARE GETTING AWAY!
FREEZE, MISTER!
DON'T FORCE ME TO DO SOMETHING YOU'LL REGRET!

GOOD ADVICE, AVENGER!
BETTER TAKE IT YOURSELF, RIGHT?
WHA--?!
PLEASE-- NO!
YOUR CHOICE, HERO!
OR I SWEAR I'LL SPLATTER NURSIE'S BRAIN ALL OVER THIS HALL!
THROW AWAY THE SHIELD, RIGHT?
CAD, PLEASE--HE MEANS IT!
BELIEVE ME SUN--YOU REALLY DON'T WANT ME TO DO THIS!
HEY DON'T TELL ME WHAT I WANT, RIGHT?
JUST DO IT, NOW!
VERY WELL..
IF YOU INSIST!
HEY NOW YOU'RE UNARMED, MAN!
SO NOW YOU'RE GONNA DIE, RIGHT?
I SAID, RIGHT?
KTANG
WRONG.
WHUMP
HUNNGF.

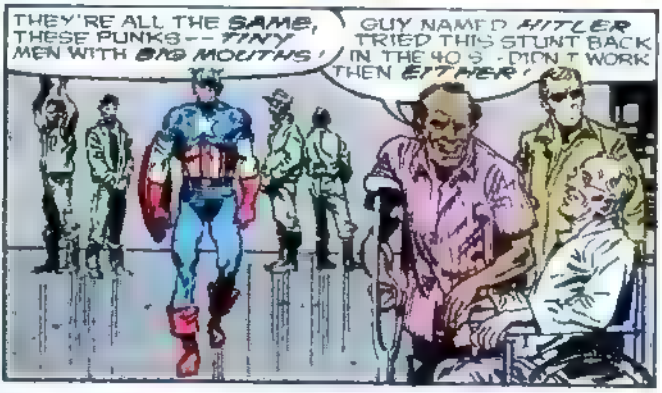
YOU'D THINK AFTER ALL THESE YEARS THEY'D FINALLY LEARN, WOULDN'T YOU?
CAPTAIN, THANK HEAVEN--!
KTING
THE OTHERS ARE STILL ESCAPING-- WITH THE STOLEN ISOTOPES!
YOU'VE GOT TO STOP THEM-- BEFORE IT'S TOO LATE!
DON'T WORRY, DOCTOR--I INTEND TO DO JUST THAT!
NORMALLY, THESE THIRD-RATE REVOLUTIONARIES WOULDN'T MAKE ME WORK UP A SWEAT--
--BUT SO LONG AS THEY'RE HOLDING THAT BLASTED LEAD BOX, THEY'RE A POWER TO BE RECKONED WITH!
THIS IS QUITE FAR ENOUGH, M'CAPITAN!
JUST LAY DOWN YOUR SHIELD SLOWLY OR I OPEN THIS BOX--
--AND WE ALL DIE SCREAMING!
EASY, FRIEND--I BELIEVE YOU!
JUST BE CAREFUL WITH THOSE ISOTOPES, OKAY?
DON'T TELL ME WHAT TO DO, AMIGO-- NOT NOW!
AT LAST I HOLD THE POWER TO BRING AMERICA TO ITS KNEES!

THE DEVIL YOU DO!
THWAK
QUE--?
GEEZ-- NO! THE BOX--!

QUICK RED-- PUSH MY CHAIR FORWARD--!
LIKE THIS ERNIE--?
PERFECT, PAL--I GOT IT!


AND I GOT THE LUNATIC IN CHARGE OF ALL THIS!
WHUDD
UNNFF--!

AND THEIR LEADER FALLEN, THE REMAINING MEMBERS OF THE FIFTH WORLD FRONT ARE QUICKLY OVERWHELMED AND DEFEATED

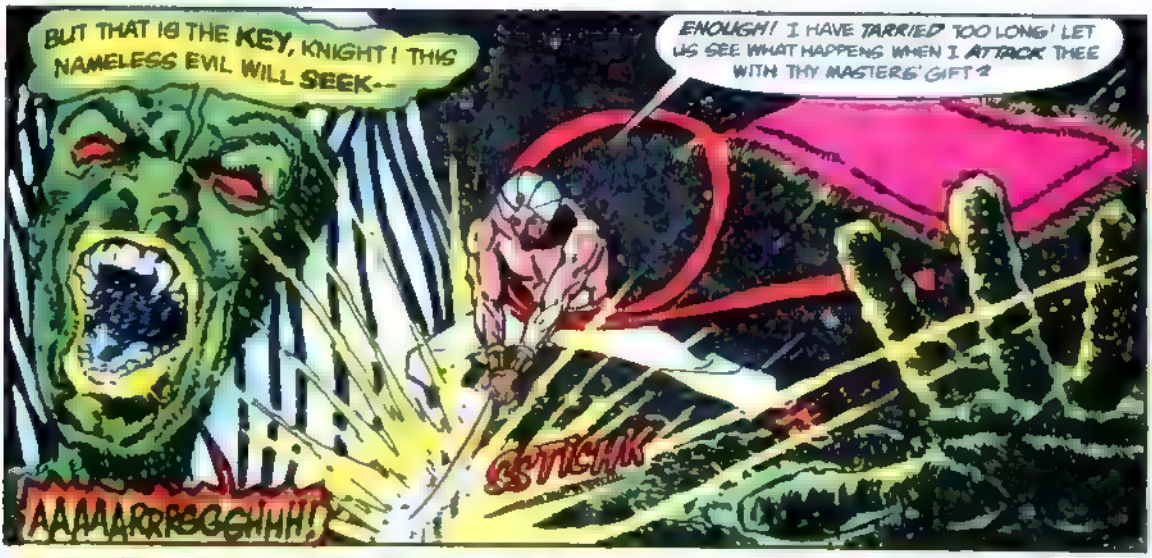

THEY'RE ALL THE SAME, THESE PUNKS-- TINY MEN WITH BIG MOUTHS!
GUY NAMED HITLER TRIED THIS STUNT BACK IN THE 40'S--DIDN'T WORK THEN EITHER!

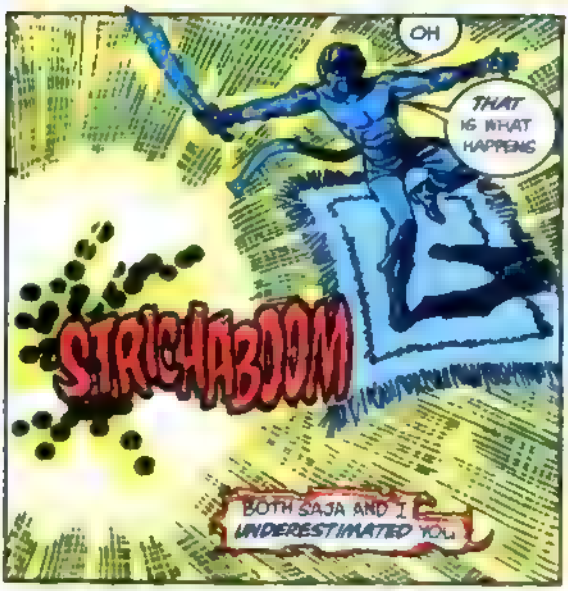
WHICH ONLY SERVES TO PROVE WHAT I SAID EARLIER, ERNIE!
YOU'RE ONLY AS HELPLESS AS YOU FEEL, MY FRIENDS-- AND A LITTLE COURAGE CAN GO A LONG WAY!
AMEN T' THAT, CAP
THE END.

"A Father's Love"
FEATURING:
ARABIAN KNIGHT
I AM EVIL ANCIENT
..TRAPPED IN THE ETERNALLY SWIRLING SANDS..
-IMPRISONED BY THE DESERT GODS
BUT I SEEK MY FREEDOM
THOU, ABDUL GAMAR, WILL SERVE AS MY PAWN
NEEE!
WHAT EVIL DOTH TRANSPIRE HERE? I RETURN, FROM TRADING GOODS IN THE CITY, TO HERALD THE BIRTH OF MY CHILD--
ONLY TO DISCOVER MY VILLAGE SET UPON BY A HORDE OF DEMONS!
NO, NOT A HORDE JUST ONE.
A POWERFUL ONE--ME.
THOU CANNOT HEAR ME CANNOT SEE ME.
BUT TRUST ME--THOU WILL KNOW THAT I AM HERE.
BRHHHHH

VILE BEASTS! MAY VULTURES FEAST ON YOUR ENTRAILS!
clkclkclkclkclk
clkclkclkclk
'TWOULD SEEM I MUST VENTURE INTO MY POSSESS-
AWAY--NOT ALONE! THOUGH I SELDOM WIELD THEM, I POSSESS THE ANCIENT GIFTS OF THE DESERT GODS
HOW COULD YOU KNOW THAT THE MAGIC SCIMITAR IS THE KEY TO MY FREEDOM?
THOUGH IT MAY COST ME MY LIFE, I SHALL ATTEND TO THE SAFETY OF MY FAMILY!
HUMANS--YOU ARE ALL SO MELODRAMATIC
SO SWEARS THE ARABIAN NIGHT!
PERFECT!
RACE TOWARD YOUR DEATH LIKE THE FOOL--
WHAT IS THIS?! I SENSE ANOTHER PRESENCE!
WHA--?!
HO, GALLANT KNIGHT!
THWAP
A MOMENT OF YOUR TIME TO CONVERSE!
NO--NOT HIM! HE WILL RUIN EVERYTHING!

BE FOREWARNED--ONLY DECEIT AND DEATH AWAIT THEE!
SO SPEAKETH SAJA--MESSENGER OF THE DESERT GODS!
FOR A DECADE I HAVE WIELDED THESE GIFTS WITH NOT A WORD OF INSTRUCTION FROM YOUR MASTERS
I SUBMIT THAT YOUR INTERVENTION IS ILL-TIMED!
HUMANS SHOULD NOT ASSUME TO QUESTION THE MOTIVES OF THE GODS.
YOU CAN NOT BE ALLOWED TO PROCEED!
SKRITCHOOM
"MESSENGER" INDEED HIS MASTERS MUST FEAR THAT I WILL AT LAST BE FREE!
SEEK NOT TO DELAY ME FURTHER, HEAP!
BE NOT A FOOL--THE EVIL AFOOT IS BEYOND MORTAL COMPREHENSION!
YOUR IGNORANCE SHALL UNLEASH UNSPEAKABLE HORRORS UPON THE WORLD!
SHUT UP! SHUT UP! YOU WILL DESTROY EVERYTHING!
THE ONLY HORROR I SPY IS THEE--THE OBSTACLE BETWEEN ME AND MY NEWBORN CHILD!

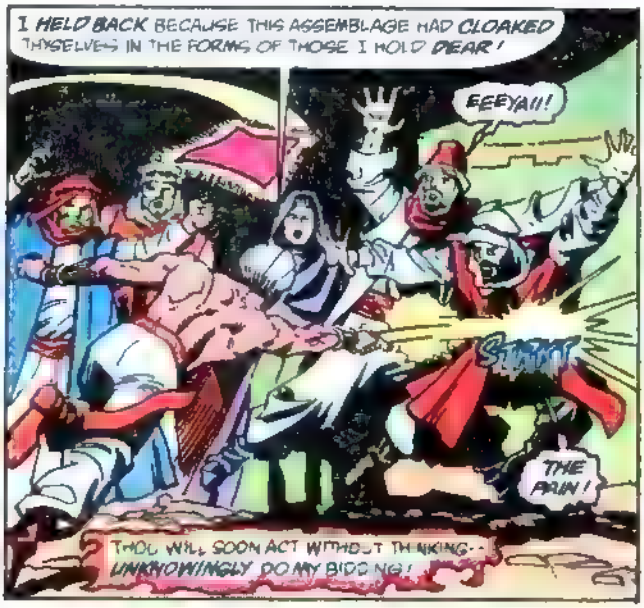

BUT THAT IS THE KEY, KNIGHT! THIS NAMELESS EVIL WILL SEEK--
ENOUGH! I HAVE TARRIED TOO LONG! LET US SEE WHAT HAPPENS WHEN I ATTACK THEE WITH THY MASTERS' GIFT!
AAAAARRRGGHHH!
STICHK


OH
THAT IS WHAT HAPPENS
STRICHABOOM
BOTH SAJA AND I UNDERESTIMATED YOU.

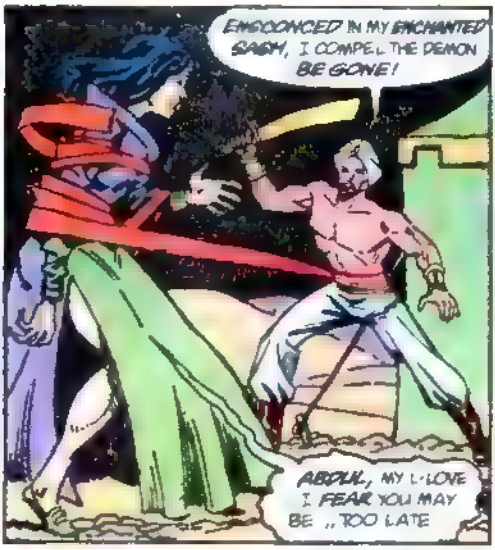
I SHALL NOT DO SO AGAIN!
MY FRIENDS! MY FAMILY! WHAT DID TRANSPIRE HERE IN MY STEAD?
WHERE ARE THE DEMONS I SPIED UPON MY APPROACH?
SPEAKETH UNTO ME -- I COMMAND THEE!

GASP! MAYA--MY FAVORITE WIFE--AND FRIENDS! WHAT MANNER OF DEMONS HAVE POSSESSED THEE?!
FOOL! 'TIS THOU WHO ART CURSED!
AYE! ME MERELY PAY THE PRICE FOR THY SINS!

TAUNT ME NOT, DEMONS -- I AM IN AN ILL MOOD STAY BACK TILL I GLEAN WHAT HAS TAKEN PLACE
ALL THOU SHALT LEARN -
--IS HOW PAINFULLY A MAN CAN DIE!
MY MINIONS KEEP THEE CONFUSED!


I HELD BACK BECAUSE THIS ASSEMBLAGE HAD CLOAKED THYSELVES IN THE FORMS OF THOSE I HOLD DEAR!
EEEYA!!
THE PAIN!
THOU WILL SOON ACT WITHOUT THINKING-- UNKNOWINGLY DO MY BIDDING!

I SHALL NOT TRIFLE A MOMENT LONGER!
WE ARE NO MATCH FOR THE [illegible] OF THE GIFTS
THWAPP
YARRGH!

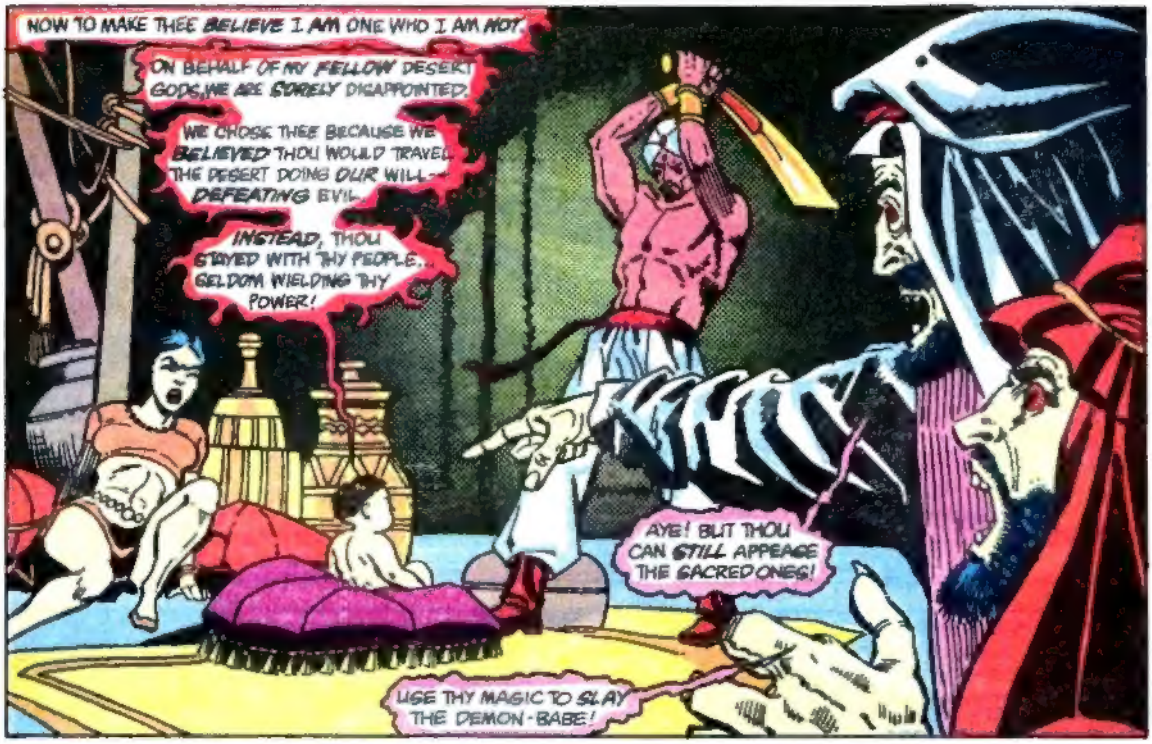

ENSCONCED IN MY ENCHANTED SASH, I COMPEL THE DEMON BE GONE!
ABDUL, MY L-LOVE I FEAR YOU MAY BE ..TOO LATE

YOUR OTHER WIFE ALMIRA-- HAS GIVEN BIRTH TO A DEMON CHILD.
B BUT HOW CAN THIS BE?
WHO CAN UNDERSTAND THE WILL OF THE GODS?
I HAD NO IDEA THY SASH WAS SO POWE[illegible]

NO MATTER. I CANNOT BELIEVE THE GODS WOULD TORTURE THEIR FAITHFUL PEOPLE SO!
INDEED THEY WOULD NOT
MAY THAT YOU BE RIGHT, MY HUSBAND

AT LAST WE MEET FACE TO FACE
NAY! IT CANNOT BE!
BUT IT IS! ONE OF THE PRIVILEGES OF BEING EVIL INCARNATE...

...IS THE TOTAL MANIPULATION OF INNOCENCE!
OH, MY "POPPA"--- THOU CERTAINLY TOOK THY TIME! I MANAGED TO AMUSE MYSELF IN THINE ABSENCE!
VILE ...THING! HOW DAREST THOU CORRUPT THE BODY OF ONE SO PURE AND CHASTE?!
SURELY THERE CAN BE NO MORE BASE A CREATURE THAN THEE!
THAT DEPENDS UPON WHERE THOU ART SEATED.
NOW TO SEE IF THOU ART PREPARED TO FALL FOR MY DECEPTION!
SPEAK NOT TO ME IN RIDDLES!
SURELY THOU ART MOST DENSE.
I'M SAYING 'TIS THOU WHO ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR THE ENSLAVEMENT OF THY PEOPLE!
THE DEMON-BABE SPEAKS THE TRUTH!
WE SUFFER FOR THY SINS, ABDUL!
WE ARE PUNISHED FOR THY INACTIONS!
THOU HAST THE POWER TO SAVE US--
--POWER THOU HAST CHOSEN NOT TO USE!
OF WHAT DO THESE DEMONS SPEAK?
THY "GIFTS"--THE PEOPLE SUFFER FOR THOU HAST CHOSEN TO EMPLOY THY GIFTS SOLELY AT THY LEISURE!

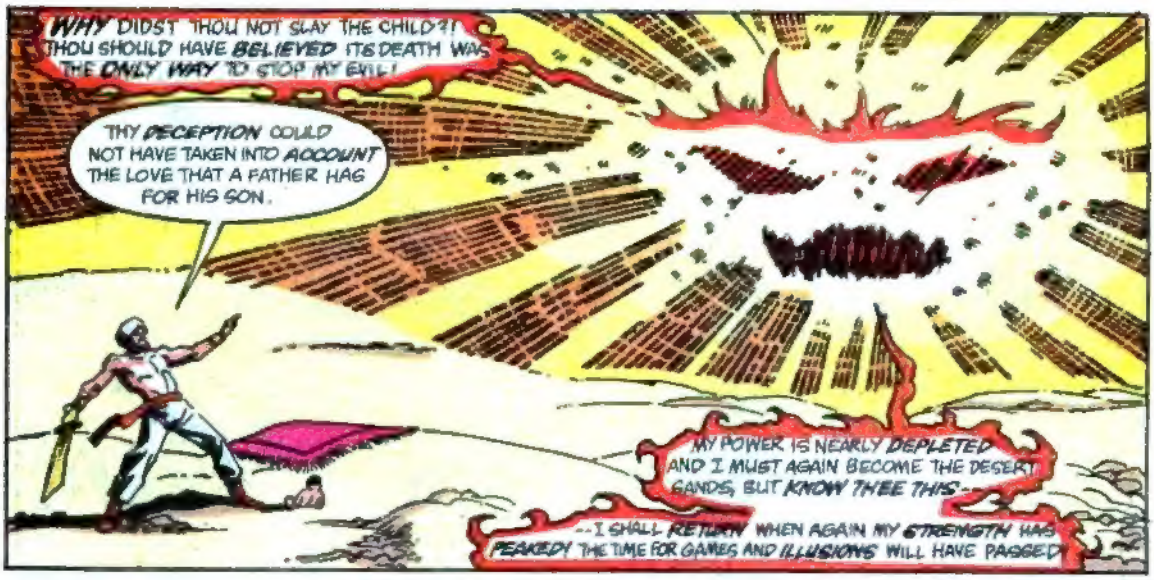

HOW TO MAKE THEE BELIEVE I AM ONE WHO I AM NOT.
ON BEHALF OF MY FELLOW DESERT GODS, WE ARE SORELY DISAPPOINTED!
WE CHOSE THEE BECAUSE WE BELIEVED THOU WOULD TRAVEL THE DESERT DOING OUR WILL -- DEFEATING EVIL.
INSTEAD, THOU STAYED WITH THY PEOPLE... SELDOM WIELDING THY POWER!
AYE! BUT THOU CAN STILL APPEASE THE SACRED ONES!
USE THY MAGIC TO SLAY THE DEMON-BABE!

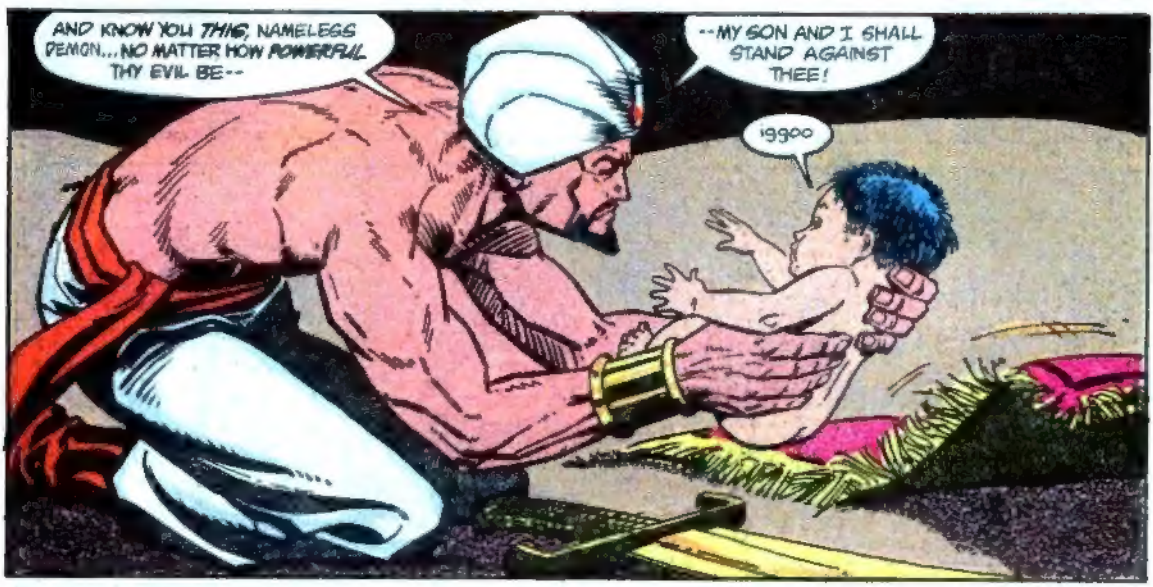
ONLY WITH THE DESTRUCTION OF THIS VESSEL WILL OUR PEOPLE EVER KNOW PEACE AGAIN!
IN TRUTH, ONCE THY SACRED BLADE TASTES THE BLOOD OF AN INNOCENT, MY EVIL SHALL BE ABLE TO RULE THIS WORLD... FOREVER!

I'M SORRY...
YES! THE MOMENT OF MY EMANCIPATION IS AT LAST AT HAND!

NAY.
CURSED MUUUU... MAAAA... NNNN!...

WHA--?! EVERYONE IS GONE!
EVERYONE -- BUT MY SON.
Ga-rruuuu?
THY SON... AND ONE OTHER!


WHY DIDST THOU NOT SLAY THE CHILD?! THOU SHOULD HAVE BELIEVED ITS DEATH WAS THE ONLY WAY TO STOP MY EVIL!
THY DECEPTION COULD NOT HAVE TAKEN INTO ACCOUNT THE LOVE THAT A FATHER HAS FOR HIS SON.
MY POWER IS NEARLY DEPLETED AND I MUST AGAIN BECOME THE DESERT SANDS, BUT KNOW THEE THIS--
--I SHALL RETURN WHEN AGAIN MY STRENGTH HAS PEAKED! THE TIME FOR GAMES AND ILLUSIONS WILL HAVE PASSED!


AND KNOW YOU THIS, NAMELESS DEMON... NO MATTER HOW POWERFUL THY EVIL BE--
--MY SON AND I SHALL STAND AGAINST THEE!
1990O

TO ME, MY CARPET! I WILL AWAY FROM THIS PLACE AND GATHER MY STRENGTH FOR THE BATTLE TO COME.
CA-OOOOO
COME, MY SON, WE SHALL ONE DAY AVENGE THE LIVES THAT WERE LOST HERE THIS DAY.

GO GWEARS THE ARABIAN KNIGHT!
WHY DO I BELIEVE YOU...?
THE END.

CAPTAIN AMERICA
IN A PLUTONIUM NIGHTMARE!
DEVIL-SLAYER
IN THE MIDDLE OF A CENTRAL AMERICAN REVOLUTION!
ARABIAN KNIGHT
VS.
THE DEMON OF THE DUNES!